

III. REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

A. Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has made a Restriction Requirement in the present Office Action, and has stated that the application must be restricted to one of the following inventions:

Group I: Claims 69-107, drawn to a method for delivery of agents from an initial bodily compartment to at least one target bodily compartment, classified in class 424, subclass 1.69;

Group II: Claims 108-137, drawn to compositions, transcompartmental delivery promoting, comprising a polymer and covalently bound to a therapeutic or diagnostic agent, classified in class 514, subclass 2.

Group III: Claims 138-164, drawn to compounds of the general formula $(X)o-(Y)m-(linker)n$ [Formula A], classified in class 530, subclass 300+.

Group IV: Claims 165, drawn to a method for making (identifying/screening) a suitable compound, of the general formula $(X)o-(Y)m-(linker)n$ [Formula A], for therapeutic or diagnostic use, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.

Group V: Claims 166-176 and 178-192, drawn to compounds of the general formula $(Y)m-(linker)n-(X)o$ [Formula B], classified in class 530, subclass 300+

Group VI: Claims 177, drawn to a method for oral delivery of agents, of the general formula $(Y)^m\text{-(linker)}^n\text{-(X)}^o$ [**Formula B**], namely a protein or peptide, to an animal, classified in class 424, subclass 9.34.

Group VII. Claims 193, drawn to a method for making (identifying/screening) a suitable compound, of the general formula $(Y)^m\text{-(linker)}^n\text{-(X)}^o$ [**Formula B**], for therapeutic or diagnostic use, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant hereby, without traverse, elects Group I, Claims 69-107 drawn to a method for delivery of agents from an initial bodily compartment to at least one target bodily compartment, classified in class 424, subclass 1.69. The claims have been amended without prejudice accordingly.

B. Further Election of Restricted Claim

The Examiner has further requested the Applicant to elect a specific composition (one compound structure of a polymer covalently bound to agent) or compound (agent, one compound structure of Formula A or B) of the elected group above.

Applicant hereby elects the following:

polymer: polyethyleneglycol (PEG)
agent: retro inverso protein or peptide

This election is made with traverse, as it is respectfully submitted that examination of the entire scope of the pending claims would not be unduly burdensome to the Patent Office

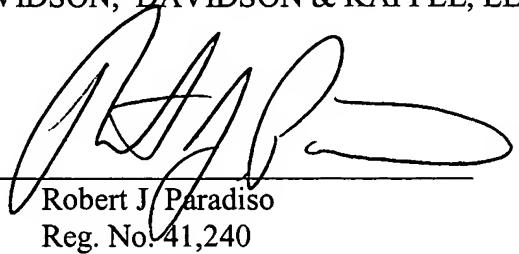
It is believed that no fee is due for this response. If it is determined that any fee is due, the Examiner is specifically authorized to charge said fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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